REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim Amendments

The Applicant has amended claims 27-31 and 40; claims 21-26, 33, 34, and 37 have been canceled; claims 41-46 have been added. Applicant respectfully submits no new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 27-32, 35, 36, and 38-46 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

Claims 21-24, 26, 27, 29, 31-34, 36, 38, and 39 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seymour (US Patent No. 5,579,384) in view of Wilson (PGPub: 2002/0029298). The Applicant has amended claims 27, 29, and 31 to better define the intended scope of the claimed invention. In addition, the Applicant has canceled claims 21-24 and 26. The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of the remaining claims.

Independent claims 27, 29, and 31 have been amended to recite a Generic Interface for subscription management with a Data Model that includes objects classes, or combinations thereof, selected from a group of objects classes including: SubscriptionIRP, SubscriptionFunction and ServiceProviderFunction classes.

Seymour addresses the problem of modelling information stored in Network Elements for management and control of the Network Elements so that changes at one procedure level do not interfere with other procedure levels in order to increase flexibility and efficiency of the network performance. In particular, Seymour discloses a Management Entity with means for collecting "Images" (NEImage) of a data model in each Managed Entity which utilize protocol adapters and transformation functions in the client side to contribute to build up the data model. However, Seymour teaches away from the Applicant's invention in that the receiver agent at the Network Element does

not receive generic operations acting on a generic data model but rather, specialized network data objects supported by the specific Network Element. Indeed, this Network Element does not include any Mapping Module in charge of mapping the generic data model into its own internal data model. Thus, Seymour does not teach or suggest a Generic Interface for subscription management with a Data Model including classes or combinations thereof selected from SubscriptionIRP, SubscriptionFunction and ServiceProviderFunction classes.

In regards to Wilson, Wilson discloses a Management system and a plurality of Managed systems with a managed objects operated by management operations. Wilson addresses the problem of the different operations and objects that each Managed system may require. To solve this problem, Wilson provides a Mediating Managed system in charge of receiving the operation and operating the managed objects without requiring the Management system to be aware of which managed objects are managed at which Managed system. A number of Mediating Managed systems are foreseen so that they can submit to each other those operations acting on managed objects not recognized and which other Mediating Managed system can manage to operate. However. Wilson does not teach or suggest a Managed entity including a mapping module whereby a generic Data Model is mapped into an internal data model. Consequently, nothing in Wilson's teaches a Generic Interface for subscription management with a Data Model including classes or combinations thereof selected from SubscriptionIRP, SubscriptionFunction and ServiceProviderFunction classes.

In the Office Action, the Examiner further rejected several claims based on J.C-K. Lee et al hereinafter Lee (Service Subscription Information Management in a TINA Environment using Object-Oriented Middleware). Lee addresses the problem of subscribers on a multi-service network who have a subscription with a service provider for access to a number of services, which can be customized under different criteria. This customization introduces the needs for multiple service profiles for each subscriber. In this respect, Lee refers to a Subscription Management Information Model that includes the data and relationships among objects required to handle subscriptions.

subscribers, and users in a retailer domain. More specifically, Lee discloses a generic object database wherein subscription data objects may be accessed. Lee discloses a Management system including an object-oriented database to provide management for object-oriented applications. However, Lee does not disclose any particular data model where a number of specific Object Classes are defined. Lee does not teach or suggest how to provide a generic interface for subscription management. Consequently, Lee does not teach or suggest the Generic Interface for subscription management with a Data Model including classes or combinations thereof selected from SubscriptionIRP, SubscriptionFunction and ServiceProviderFunction classes.

Thus, Seymour, Wilson, and Lee, either separately or in combination, do not teach or suggest all the elements recited in independent claims 27, 29, and 31. Specifically, none of the references teach or suggest a Generic Interface for subscription management with a Data Model including classes or combinations thereof selected from SubscriptionIRP, SubscriptionFunction and ServiceProviderFunction classes, as recited in the independent amended claims 27, 29, and 31. Claims 32-34, 36, 38, and 39 depend from amended claim 31 and recite further limitations in combination with the novel elements of claim 31. Therefore, the allowance of claims 27, 29, 31-34, 36, 38, and 39 is respectfully requested.

Claims 25, 28, 30, 37, and 40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seymour (US Patent No. 5,579,384) and Wilson (PGPub: 2002/0029298) in further view of J.C-K. Lee et al hereinafter Lee (Service Subscription Information Management in a TINA Environment using Object-Oriented Middleware). The Applicant has amended claims 28 and 30, 31, and 40 to better define the intended scope of the claimed invention. In addition, claim 25 has been canceled. The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of the remaining claims.

Independent claims 27, 29, 31 and 40 have been amended and now recite a Generic Interface for subscription management with a Data Model that includes objects classes, or combinations thereof, selected from a group of objects classes including: SubscriptionIRP, SubscriptionFunction and ServiceProviderFunction classes.

As discussed above, Seymour, Wilson, and Lee, either separately or in combination, do not teach or suggest all the elements recited in independent claims 27, 29, 31, and 40. Specifically, none of the references teach or suggest a Generic Interface for subscription management with a Data Model including classes or combinations thereof selected from SubscriptionIRP, SubscriptionFunction and ServiceProviderFunction classes.

Regarding the Lee reference, Lee refers to a Subscription Management Information Model that includes the data and relationships among objects required to handle subscriptions, subscribers, and users in a retailer domain. Lee discloses a generic object database wherein subscription data objects may be accessed. Lee discloses a Management system including an object-oriented database to provide management for object-oriented applications. However, Lee does not disclose any particular data model where a number of specific Object Classes are defined. Lee does not teach or suggest how to provide a generic interface for subscription management. Consequently, Lee does not teach or suggest the Generic Interface for subscription management with a Data Model including classes or combinations thereof selected from SubscriptionIRP, SubscriptionFunction and ServiceProviderFunction classes.

Claim 28 depends from amended claim 27 and recites further limitations in combination with the novel elements of claim 27. Claim 28 depends from amended claim 27 and recites further limitations in combination with the novel elements of claim 27. Claim 30 depends from amended claim 29 and recites further limitations in combination with the novel elements of claim 29. Claim 37 depends from amended claim 31 and recites further limitations in combination with the novel elements of claim 31. Therefore, the allowance of claims 25, 28, 30, 37, and 40 is respectfully requested.

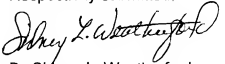
Furthermore, claims 41-46 have been added. The claims dependent from amended independent claims 27, 29, 31, and 40 and recite further limitations in combination with the novel elements of claims 27, 29, 31, and 40. Therefore, the allowance of claims 41-46 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant believes all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

The Applicant requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted.



By Sidney L. Weatherford
Registration No. 45,602

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Ericsson Inc.
6300 Legacy Drive, M/S EVR 1-C-11
Plano, Texas 75024

(972) 583-8656
sidney.weatherford@ericsson.com